

SWAFFHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Together with the

REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1964

S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health: A. Afnan, L.A.H., D.P.H., (Engl:)
M.D., D.L.O. (Teh:)

Public Health Inspector : D. B. Foxwell, C.S.I.B.,
M.A.P.H.I.

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SWAFFHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1964

Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my second Annual Report on the Health Services of the District for the year ending 31st December, 1964. Dr. A.S. Dunn was Medical Officer of Health until his resignation in May last year. My duties as Medical Officer of Health commenced at the beginning of August 1964.

INTRODUCTION

The mid-year population of the district in 1964 as estimated by the Registrar-General was 9,500 compared with 9,360 last year. During the year 185 children were born, but, there were 2 still-births and 2 infant deaths, both of which occurred during the first weeks of life. Still-births and deaths occurring in the first week of life are often due to similar causes. Nutrition, medical skill, hygiene, housing conditions, maternal education, ante-natal care and specialist services, each one plays some part in reducing infant mortality. There is clear evidence that pregnant mothers who smoke have smaller babies, and also that they double the risk of a premature birth or a still-birth. During the year, welfare centres for infants were held in Necton, North Pickenham and Sporle. Welfare foods were sold from these centres.

Immunisation against an increasing number of diseases continues to form a large part of the work of a Public Health Department, and at present this is largely concerned with producing immunity against Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Tuberculosis and Smallpox. Different tables are included in this report showing the number of immunisations carried out.

A dangerous ailment which has been known for years, is tetanus or lockjaw. The disease is much more common in the Eastern Counties, where tetanus spores abound and slight injury may cause a serious and perhaps fatal illness. I have always insisted on preventative inoculations which are available through Local Health Offices and General Practitioners.

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From 28th September to the 14th October, 1964, the Norwich Mass Radiography Unit visited Swaffham Rural District. It offered to the public the opportunity of many sites in all parts of the area, so that it was quite easy for people to attend either from their homes or places of work. Times and places were extensively advertised, leaflets and posters were distributed. Voluntary organisations visited every house to encourage people to attend. The total X-rayed was 1474 (763 male and 711 female.).

Three cases of pulmonary disease were found, one required treatment, one kept under observation by the Chest Clinic and the last one had a healed post-primary lesion.


Among the other diseases discovered were :-

Unresolved Pneumonia	1
Hiatus Hernia	1
Lymphadenoma	1
Secondary Carcinoma	1
Emphysema	1
Neurofibroma	1
Bronchial Carcinoma	1
Cardiovascular Lesions (acquired)	13

Periodic routine medical examinations or "Health Checks" are of great value. Their aim is the detection of any deviation from the mental or physical state of the individual. People who consider themselves fit are sometimes found to have abnormalities which in some instances, have sinister significance. Many sound investigations are available to screen for incipient diseases - blood counts, urine examinations, X-rays etc, and a satisfactory result can prove very re-assuring. Routine medical examinations of elderly patients can detect nutritional or orthopaedic problems (which are frequent in the aged) and these can be remedied before they cause real trouble. Every effort to ensure periodic routine medical examination and prevention of disease, especially in groups at risk, is highly rewarding.

There were 94 deaths in 1964, none from tuberculosis and at the end of the year there were four cases less on the T.B. Register.

The main causes of death were from diseases of the heart and blood



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vessels. Deaths from cancer took second place. Many deaths from cancer of the lung could be saved by NEVER smoking tobacco. Every educational method must be used to prevent children starting to smoke, and adults must be encouraged to stop.

In the words of Sir Barnett Stross, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health "When you remember that cancer killed more than 100,000 people and that over 24,000 people died from lung cancer alone in England and Wales last year, you can immediately realise the enormous scope of cancer prevention."

The Government was right to stop the advertisement of cigarettes on television. The mathematical connection between lung cancer and cigarettes has been proved beyond reasonable doubt, even if the bio-chemical cause remains mysterious, cigarettes are dangerous and habit forming.

Whatever the tobacco companies may say about the importance of preserving the liberty to choose between one dangerous object and another, there is no principle which can justify encouraging children to smoke cigarettes.

The Government policy should go further and the newspapers, periodicals and poster-site proprietors should follow this example. Smoking in public transport and public places should be banned.

According to a World Health Organisation report, three-quarters of all cases of cancer could have been prevented if caught in their early stages. Treatment of pre-cancerous lesions is the corner-stone of cancer prevention and it is essential that medical practitioners should be trained in this subject. Examination of people of 30 years and more is recommended. The tests should include inspection of the entire skin area, urine test, chest X-ray and in women, cervical smears and palpation of breast.

Deaths in England and Wales due to accidental poisoning by drugs have risen from 140 in 1948 to 532 in 1962. Every week one person dies from accidental poisoning by aspirin and every day someone dies accidentally from barbiturate poisoning.

Very often it is seen that drinks and drugs are kept in one place, sleeping tablets being left on the bedside table, bleaches and cleaners are

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often stored under the kitchen sink where they are easily accessible to children, and unused medicine and drugs are often stored in unlocked drawers.

It should be noted that a child's sense of taste differs so radically from that of an adult, that he will drink turpentine, or bleaches, with apparent relish, and eat aspirin like sweets.

Self-medication without medical advice is also deep-rooted in many people. There are dangers from side-effects of drugs, over-dosing, and delay of correct medical treatment, by people who diagnose their own ailments and ask for medicine over the Chemists' counters.

Medicine is somewhat in the news nowadays with the main emphasis on the curative side. It is also entertaining in quite a big way if one is to judge some of the television and radio programmes which have such a popular appeal.

What a difference it might make, if we had a change of emphasis, and if some genius of a script-writer could devise a programme of which the background was "Keeping Fit", and if our newspapers, with their tremendous influence, could push the idea that the promotion of healthy national measures was quite the fashion nowadays. Fresh air and exercise can be just as effective as sleeping tablets, and there will be no hangover the next day. Exercise and well-planned diet are better weight reducers than amphetamine drugs.

May I in conclusion, express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest and support during the year, and to the Surveyor, Public Health Inspector and the Clerical Staff for their valuable assistance and co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. AFTAN

Medical Officer of Health

Table 1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	93,216
Estimated Resident Population	9,500
Rateable value	£190,663
Sum produced by a Penny Rate	769

Table 2. LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	106	75	181
Illegitimate	1	3	4
Totals	107	78	185

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated Resident Population-
 Crude = 19.4
 Adjusted = 20.3

Table 3. STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	2

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births = 10.8

Table 4. TOTAL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Live	107	78	185
Still	1	1	2
Totals	108	79	187

Table 5. INFANT DEATHS

(a) Infant Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 year)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	2

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Infant Mortality Rates:

Total = 10.8 (per 1,000 live births)
 Legitimate = 11.0 (per 1,000 legitimate births)
 Illegitimate = Nil (per 1,000 illegitimate births)

(b) Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants during first four weeks)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) = 10.8

(c) Early Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants under one week)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) = 10.8

(d) Perinatal Mortality (Still births and deaths under 1 week)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Perinatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) = 20.1

Table 6. ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

Males - 1 Females - 3 Total - 4 = 2.01% of Total Live Births

Table 7. MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion) = Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) = Nil

Table 8. DEATHS (All ages)

Males	Females	Total
53	41	94

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 of estimated Resident Population) = 9.8

Adjusted " " (" " " " " ") = 10.5

Table 9. CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

	Males	Females	Total
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	1	1	2

Table 10.

NOTIFICATIONS OF DEATHS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR
(According to Age Groups)

	Males	Females	Total
Under 4 weeks	1	1	2
4 weeks and under 1 year	-	-	-
1 and under 5	1	1	2
5 and under 15	1	-	1
15 and under 25	-	-	-
25 and under 35	-	-	-
35 and under 45	-	1	1
45 and under 55	1	2	3
55 and under 65	7	5	12
65 and under 75	12	7	19
75 and over	30	24	54
Totals	53	41	94

Table 11.

CAUSE OF TOTAL DEATHS (Registrar-General)

	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infection	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	1	6
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	3	4	7
15. Leukemia, Aleukemia	1	-	1
16. Diabetes	2	-	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	7	11
18. Coronary disease, angina	15	7	22
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
20. Other heart diseases	3	6	9
21. Other circulatory disease	3	2	5
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	3	4	7
24. Bronchitis	4	2	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	4	8
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34. All other accidents	1	-	1
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
Totals	53	41	94

Table 12.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Estimated Population	9,500	9,360	9,140	9,020	9,460
Total Births	187	185	180	197	183
Total Deaths	94	92	99	95	86
Birth Rate (Crude)	19.4	19.8	19.6	21.2	19.4
Death Rate (Crude)	9.8	9.8	10.8	10.5	9.1
Infant Deaths	2	3	3	3	2
Infant Mortality Rate	10.8	16.2	16.8	15.7	10.9
Stillbirths	2	9	1	6	5
Stillbirth Rate	10.8	46.4	5.6	30.5	26.6

Table 13(a)

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS

	AGE GROUP										Total
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15-24	Over 25	Age Unknown	
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	-	1	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	6
Measles	-	6	7	14	11	55	6	1	1	-	101
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	-	7	9	15	12	58	6	1	1	-	109

Table 13(b).

	AGE GROUP						Total
	Under 5	5-14	15-44	45-64	Over 65	Age Unknown	
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Acute Encephalitis (infective)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

Table 14.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER - SWAFFHAM R.D.

Respiratory				Other			
Year	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	GRAND TOTAL
1964	12	14	26	1	3	4	30
1963	12	18	30	1	3	4	34
1962	11	15	26	2	2	4	30
1961	11	16	27	2	3	5	32
1960	11	14	25	2	3	5	30
1959	12	11	23	2	1	3	26

Table 15

TETANUS IMMUNISATION 1964 : Health Area 6

	AGE GROUP			Total
	0-4	5-15	16 and over	
Primary	575	63	113	751
Booster	135	249	62	446
Totals	710	312	175	1197

Table 16.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION-Health Area 6

Children born in years -	Primary Injections	Booster Injections	Total
1964	214	0	214
1963	300	36	336
1962	58	64	122
1961	24	23	47
1960	8	9	17
1955-1959	31	227	258
1950-1954	6	71	77
Total	641	430	1071

Table 17.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION-Health Area 6

Year of birth	Number of children
1964	202
1963	283
1962	52
1961	14
1960	6
1955-1959	10
1950-1954	2
Total	569

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Table 18.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION - Health Area 6

Age at date of Vaccination	1. NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED (OR REVACCINATED DURING PERIOD)	
	Number vaccinated	Number revaccinated
0-3 months	37	-
3-6 months	19	-
6-9 months	9	-
9-12 months	33	-
1	130	-
2-4	21	2
5-14	9	8
15 or over	-	-
TOTAL	258	10

Table 19.

POLIOMYELITIS - Health Area 6

Number of persons who received:			Total
Third dose of oral vaccine	Third injection of salk vaccine	Reinforcing dose of oral vaccine after two salk	
755	10	319	1084

The number of persons in this County Health Area who have completed a three dose course is 15,948. There are some 40,000 people living in the area. As the vaccination is on offer, with few exceptions, only to those under forty it follows that a very high proportion of those eligible are protected. At the beginning of the year, 15,183 had had three doses, thus in the year 1964 another 765 completed the course.

ANNUAL REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR
1964

Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit hereunder my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1964.

1. RECORD OF INSPECTIONS

Drainage & Sewerage	29
Housing	261
Refuse Collection & Disposal	156
Food Premises	89
Water Supplies	60
Infections Diseases	8
Moveable Dwellings	15
Factories	19
Rat Infestation	65
Milk & Dairies	10
Infestations	3
Miscellaneous	35
	<hr/> 750 <hr/>

2. COMPLAINTS & NUISANCES

21 reported nuisances were investigated during the year mostly relating to drainage and the keeping of animals. All were dealt with informally.

3. HOUSING

During the year 20 Notices of Time and Place under the Housing Act 1957 were served on owners of property considered to be unfit for human occupation. This resulted in the making of 19 Demolition Orders and the acceptance of one Undertaking not to use the house for human habitation.

8 houses were demolished during the year.

Applications for Improvement Grants were approved in respect of 33 houses. Of these, 12 were for Discretionary Grants for which the total grant approved was £3,445, and 21 were for Standard Grants.

GRANTS APPROVED

	1952/55	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	Total
Discretionary	27	35	27	45	21	12	15	17	17	12	228
Standard	-	-	-	-	8	25	19	23	27	21	123
Total	27	35	27	45	29	37	34	40	44	33	351

The number of improvements completed and grants paid, are as follows:-

	1952/55	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	Total
Discretionary	19	26	28	22	50	19	10	11	21	10	216
Standard	-	-	-	-	1	18	12	21	21	25	98
Total	19	26	28	22	51	37	22	32	42	35	314

4. WATER SUPPLIES

Samples of water were taken from the Council's piped supplies at regular intervals and submitted to bacteriological examination. 42 samples were taken, 10 of which, all from the Oxborough supply, proved to be unsatisfactory. This source of supply was discontinued and the Oxborough area supplied from the Gooderstone source, the mains having been already connected. All other main supplies proved to be satisfactory.

A mains supply of water is available to the whole district with the exception of isolated houses and groups of houses, and in some of these cases there are private piped supplies. In one such case the supply was found to be polluted and the source of pollution traced to a storage tank. Consumers were warned to boil all water from this source until cleaning and chlorinating the storage tank removed the pollution.

18 samples of water were taken from private sources for bacteriological examination, 9 proving satisfactory and 9 unsatisfactory. In the case of the unsatisfactory results, remedial action secured satisfactory supplies.

5. INFECTIOUS DISEASE

No case of Poliomyelitis was reported during the year.

Reported cases of Scarlet Fever were investigated mainly to ascertain any connection of patients or contacts with food production.

5 cases of suspected food poisoning were reported occurring in one family. Investigation was carried out, samples of food taken and specimens secured from the patients, but all reports were negative to food poisoning organisms.

6. SEWERAGE

Most of the main centres of population are now served with public sewers; schemes having been completed in the parishes of Ashill, Cockley Cley, Great Cressingham, Bradenham, Gooderstone, Hilborough, Holme Hale, Mundford, Narborough, Necton, North Pickenham, South Pickenham, Saham Toney, Sporle and Weeting.

During the year, new sewers and disposal works were completed in Narborough. Work continued on the extension of the Saham Toney scheme and work was commenced on a scheme to provide sewers and disposal works at Beachamwell. Documents were completed for providing sewers in Oxborough and for the extension of the existing system at Hilborough.

Housing sites and private houses not connected to the public sewer and served by septic tanks, have been attended to by the cesspool emptying service. Two free services a year are given to owners of houses incapable of being connected to a sewer. Otherwise a charge is made of 35/- for the first load and 20/- for any subsequent load on the same day.

512 visits to private properties were made during the year, 261 of which were free services.

7. PUBLIC CLEANSING

Collection of household refuse took place at fortnightly intervals throughout the year, a kerbside collection being operated with three men and a Shelvoke and Drewery 16/18 cu.yd fore and aft tipping collection vehicle.

Seven pits continued to be used for disposal purposes, levelling mostly being carried out by the collection staff, though at the Mundford tip it was necessary on two occasions to hire a tractor in order to obtain sufficient consolidation.

During the year 646 loads of refuse were collected, an increase of 148 on the amount collected during the preceeding year. This may be attributed not only to the increase in the number of dwellings but to the increase in the sale of packaged goods.

15 litter baskets have been provided in various villages and are emptied at the time of household collection.

8. FOOD

Food premises operating in the district during the year numbered 73, and

consisted of -

36	General Stores
3	Butchers shops
1	Fried Fish Shop
1	Wet Fish Shop
1	Bakehouse
4	Cafes
25	Public Houses
2	Poultry Processing Plants

89 visits to food premises were made during the year and where necessary, unhygienic practices pointed out. There still remains a tendency for unwrapped food, particularly sweets, to be placed in positions liable to contamination.

The following food was condemned as unfit for consumption :-

1	14 lbs tin of Danish Gammon
8	Chickens
6	Chicken wings
6	Chicken pies
8	Packets of Fish Cakes
15	Packets of Fish Fillets
15	Packets of Fish Fingers
2	Packets of String Beans
17	Packets of Steaklets
41	Packets of Peas
6	Packets of Corn on the Cob
3	Packets of Shepherds Pie
32	Packets of Chips
4	Sponge Cakes
177	Assorted Ice Creams

With the exception of the tinned food, this constituted the contents of a deep freeze cabinet following mechanical failure.

All food shops, private schools and homes were checked for the possession of 6.lb tins of corned beef and tongue of the batch attributed to the Aberdeen typhoid fever epidemic. None of the tins found were of the batch under suspicion.

Proceedings were taken under the Food Hygiene General Regulations 1960, against a man who prepared ham pies under dirty conditions in his house for sale in a shop in a neighbouring district. The Magistrates found him guilty of carrying on a food business in insanitary premises and of failing to keep equipment clean. Fines were imposed totalling £15.

42 samples of ice cream were taken from retailers within the district during the year. 4 samples (all ice lollies) were reported as being suspicious, but repeat samples from the same batch proved satisfactory.

9. MILK AND DAIRIES

10 Milk Distributors and 7 Dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959. Regular inspections of premises have been made.

10. MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There were 8 licensed sites for individual caravans in the district during the year.

A licensed site for 25 caravans was developed but by the end of the year was only partially used for residential purposes. Drainage and piped water were laid on to each caravan standing and concrete roads and approaches laid down.

11. RODENT CONTROL

Warfarin bait continued to be supplied free to occupiers of property where rat infestation was present. As a result of the campaign carried out the previous year the public were more aware of the availability of free bait for domestic properties and there was consequently a greater demand for this.

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Refuse tips continued to be dealt with by the refuse collection staff. Continuous baiting with Warfarin was carried out at Mundford tip where the nature of the refuse is more attractive to rats, and large quantities of bait were used on this site.

12. COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses in the district.

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PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of	
			Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
i. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	19	-	-
iii. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total...	12	19	-	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

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Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total...	1	1	-	1	-

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D.B. FOXWELL

Public Health Inspector.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR
for 1964

Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1964
as follows :-

1. WATER SUPPLIES

In all except the sparsely populated areas the Council have provided piped water which, with the exception of the parish of Weeting, where it is purchased from the Ely Water Board supply, is obtained from our own sources. The Council's district can be divided into two different types of supply zones, as under :-

EASTERN AREA (OR AREA 'B')

This area is made up of the parishes of Bradenham, Holme Hale, Ashill, Saham Toney, North Pickenham, South Pickenham, Necton and Sporle. In addition to these, water is supplied in bulk from the Bradenham Headworks to the parishes of Little Dunham and Shipdham which are in the Mitford and Launditch Rural District. Part of the Swaffham Urban District also receives water from Bradenham, and the whole of the above area is supplied by a Regional Scheme with the Headworks at Bradenham.

The source at Bradenham has two boreholes sunk into the chalk, one 18" diameter and the other 24" diameter and being 400' and 350' deep respectively. The raw water is of a high standard of purity, is reasonably hard and contains a quantity of iron which makes it unsuitable for domestic use without treatment. A "Permutit Spiractor" type of lime softening plant successfully removes all carbonate hardness and iron. The treated water has a hardness figure of approximately 140 parts per million with no iron content and a fluoride content of 0.15 p.p.m.

Frequent bacteriological sampling was undertaken during the year and details of these are given with the Public Health Inspector's section of this report. All samples were satisfactory.

Proposals have been put in hand for enlarging the treatment plant, the headworks buildings and the storage reservoir and carrying out a mains extension in order to make a supply of water available to a greater part of the Mitford and Launditch Rural District, and to augment the supply to Dereham Urban District.

Details of the number of connections made to this scheme are given in the following table :-

CONNECTIONS AREA 'B'

Parish	Number
Ashill	184
Bradenham	177
Holme Hale	112
Necton	288
Pickenham, North	141
Pickenham, South	39
Saham Toney	328
Sporle	207

The total consumption for the Bradenham source is approximately 240,000 gallons per day during normal periods. During the hot weather we encountered the usual very high seasonal increase in consumption which caused daily figures to rise to as much as 330,000 gallons and to drop again very rapidly with the arrival of rainy weather.

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WESTERN AREA (OR AREA 'A')

In this area are the parishes of Beachamwell, Gooderstone (with a single headworks at Gooderstone), Cockley Cley, Little Cressingham, Great Cressingham, Foulden, Hilborough, Mundford, Narborough, Oxborough and Weeting (supplied in bulk from Ely and Mildenhall Water Board). With the exception of Weeting, these parishes are supplied from small village schemes. The Headworks in each comprise a 6" bore with submersible pump, supplying water either to a high level tank or in some cases, pressure set. Water from these sources is hard and only contains traces of iron. It is therefore possible to supply direct to the consumer without treatment of any kind. This also means that these small schemes can be made completely automatic and operated with little attention. The quantity of water consumed in these parishes is given in the following table :-

Beachamwell & Gooderstone (Headworks at Gooderstone)	...	20,000 g.p.d.
Cockley Cley	...	3,000 g.p.d.
Little Cressingham	...	12,000 g.p.d.
Great Cressingham	...	5,000 g.p.d.
Foulden	...	4,000 g.p.d.
Hilborough	...	4,000 g.p.d.
Mundford	...	60,000 g.p.d.
Narborough	...	30,000 g.p.d.
Oxborough	...	5,000 g.p.d.
Weeting (supplied in bulk from Ely & Mildenhall Water Board)	...	70,000 g.p.d.
Total	...	<u>213,000 g.p.d.</u>

During the hot weather these figures may increase by as much as 50 per cent in the same way as shown earlier in the case of Area 'B'.

The total normal daily consumption over the whole district was therefore approximately 453,000 gallons per day.

Connections in the various parishes in Area 'A' are shown in the following table :-

CONNECTIONS AREA 'A'

Parish	Number
Beachamwell	76
Cockley Cley	51
Cressingham, Great	84
Cressingham, Little	64
Foulden	74
Gooderstone	111
Hilborough	68
Mundford and	277
Ickburgh	
Narborough	166
Oxborough	67
Weeting	302

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

For a number of years the Council have been making every effort to provide main drainage facilities for all main centres of population in the district. The following table shows the parishes which have so far been provided with main sewerage, the number of connections for which the scheme was designed, and the total number of connections made to the scheme up to the present time:

SCHEDULE OF SEWER CONNECTIONS

Connections allowed for.	Parish	Connections Total Estimated
88	Great Cressingham	58
72	Holme Hale	48
53	Hilborough	40
123	Mundford	158
187	Necton	169
177	North & South Pickenham	129
145	Ashill	76
188	Sporle	173
136	Weeting	290
159	Saham Toney	148
51	Cockley Cley	34
149	Bradenham	73
340	Narborough	121
61	Gooderstone	53

In addition to these completed works, the Council have proposals in hand for sewerage the parishes of Beachamwell, Oxborough, Hilborough and Foulden. The new scheme for Narborough is complete and is in use. The extension of sewers in Saham Toney to include the part of the parish known as Saham Hills is also complete and a number of connections have been made to this part of the scheme.

The Council are now nearing the end of their programme to sewer the whole of their district and in fact their go-ahead attitude has resulted in a steady increase in population which of course in turn, means that our next step must be the enlargement of some of the sewage disposal works which are becoming overloaded. The parishes in which such work is becoming necessary are Mundford, Necton, Sporle and Weeting.

3. HOUSING.

Sixteen new Council Houses were completed during the year, bringing the total number of dwellings owned by the Council up to 1,045.

As well as the Council Houses completed during the year, there were 70 dwellings built by private enterprise for owner-occupation.

The following Table shows how private enterprise and council house building compares over the past five years :-

NEW HOUSES COMPLETED

Year	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Private Enterprise	53	25	79	45	70
Council Houses	31	36	15	17	16

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From this comparison it can be seen that the general trend is for less council houses and more private building. I think that is due to a large extent, to the Council's policy of encouraging private building for owner-occupiers together with the provision of sewers and water in the whole district, and their efforts in purchasing land for sale as building plots in the parishes of Ashill, Foulden, Mundford, Sporle, Oxborough and Weeting.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E.M. JENKINS

Surveyor & Water Engineer.

